sfaa NEWSLETTER November 21, 1955

REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

During the four months since July 5 there has been considerable activity within the California School of Fine Arts and the San Francisco Art Association involving both organizations. Mistakes have been made, and we would be unpleasantly conceited or foolishly optimistic to believe that others won't be made in the future. Our situation demands constant activity, often experimental and frequently executed under pressure with generous help from volunteers and paid staff, whose devotion and effort is well beyond what could reasonably be asked. We think the balance sheet is good, and with continued effort will be better.

One of the most apparent projects is the remodeling of the offices, whose completion was made possible by the generosity of the Women's Auxiliary. We're indebted to artists of the Board, Council and faculty for the rotating exhibition on walls and sculpture stands. Not only has the remodeling done much to improve the School and its impact on visitors, it has also made possible reorganization of the administrative staff, effecting a substantial saving in operating overhead and equally substantial increases in the amount of work handled.

The large gallery at the School has been designated the SFAA Gallery, dedicated to full scale one-man exhibitions by outstanding artists without regard to SFAA membership, place of residence or consideration other than quality of work. Selection of artists is made by vote of the Artists' Council; shows are assembled and hung by the Special Exhibitions Committee chaired by Fred Martin, assisted by Julius Wasserstein. Refreshments and decorations for openings are contributed by the Women's Auxiliary; they have also offered help in case the Committee arranges exhibitions by artists outside the Bay Area, shipping costs making such shows otherwise impossible. The previous NEWSLETTER explained the Monograph-Catalog accompanying each exhibition prepared by Peg Blaney, our public relations representative, and Robert Jackson of the Howell-North Press. The Monograph provides broader knowledge and understanding of the individual artists and of contemporary art in general, and brings California art to the attention of other sections of the country through our national mailing lists. Your collection of these monographs will constitute, in time, a valuable record of contemporary American art and of this region in particular, and become an important supplement to Painting and Sculpture, an SFAA publication, University of California, 1952.

Under the aegis of the Artists' Council, the Alumni Association and the faculty of the School, a series of special programs is under way. You will be kept informed through the newspapers, the NEWSLETTER and occasional special announcements.

To those unable to visit the School often, a less apparent but extremely important

REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP - continued -

project is the minor repair and dull chore department. Charlie Safford and his six working scholarship students have completed over 130 projects effecting the solid steady upkeep and rehabilitation of the physical plant, a great contribution to efficiency and morale.

Parallel with the development of these activities and others, a careful study of the needs of the School and community has been made. Reports, surveys and suggestions from the files have been consulted; discussions held with leaders in the fields of fine and applied arts and education; and a master plan for further improvement of the organization and rehabilitation of the School has resulted. The plan is too long and complex to detail here, but it provides a blueprint to base plans and decisions on, and promises that within the next few years the CSFA can maintain itself from tuition, membership dues and present endowment. Well received by the Board of Directors, the plan's conversion from a paper outline to operational fact is already under way.

We feel that a great deal has been accomplished in these few months—although there is a vast amount still to be done. With your continued support and good will, we believe that it will be done.

—Gurdon Woods, Director

CONCERT TO BE HELD

As announced in the first NEWSLETTER, a concert will be given at the School on Friday, December 2 at 1 p.m. by students of the Chamber Music Center, San Francisco State College. Under the direction of Ferenc Molnar, first violinist with the SF Symphony, the program will be introduced by Alexander Fried, Music Critic of the San Francisco Examiner, and is open to the public without charge.

SPRING CALENDAR REVISED

The calendar for the spring semester at the CSFA has been revised as follows:

Registration: January 17-20, 1956
Spring term begins: January 23, 1956
Spring term closes: June 1, 1956

MONTHLY EXHIBITIONS OF CHILD ART

Examples of child art from the collection of Rhoda Kellogg are scheduled for exhibition at the School for the coming months. The December show will feature works of children from 2 to 12. Miss Kellogg, supervisor of the Golden Gate Nursery Schools, has written two books and lectured extensively on her revolutionary theories on children's art.

ANNUAL WATERCOLOR AWARDS

Prize awards for the SFAA Annual Watercolor Exhibition included Purchase Prize to Nathan Oliveira; Artists Council Prizes to Gardiner McCauley and SFAA member Richards Ruben; an award to Jerry C. Davis and Honorable Mentions to Gail H. Butt and V. Adams Davis.

800 CHESTNUT · SAN FRANCISCO 11 · CALIFORNIA

sfaa

Sec. 34.65-E P.L.& R.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
San Francisco, Cal.
Permit No. 5304

11/21/55